

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A polyamide-based multilayer film consisting of at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and at least one polyamide layer,

the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer comprising a polyamide-based resin, an alcohol-based compound, and a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, and

the at least one polyamide layer comprising an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient, and an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. %, a modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer, and an antioxidant.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer further comprises an inorganic water-absorptive substance.

4. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer is prepared by melt-blending a polyamide-based resin with an alcohol-based compound, and then adding a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

5. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the polyamide-based resin comprises an aliphatic nylon as a principal ingredient, the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer has an ethylene content of 60 mol% or less, and the degree of saponification of the vinyl acetate moieties is at least 90 mol%.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the antioxidant is a phenol-based antioxidant.

8. (Original) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 7, wherein the phenol-based antioxidant is at least one member selected from the group consisting of 3,9-bis[2-{3-(3-*t*-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)propionyloxy}-1,1-dimethylethyl]-2,4,8,10-tetraoxaspiro[5,5]undecane; 6-[3-(3-*t*-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)propoxy]-2,4,8,10-tetra-*t*-butylbenz[d,f][1,3,2]dioxaphosphhepin; and pentaerythrityl-tetrakis[3-(3,5-di-*t*-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionate].

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a polyamide-based multilayer film, the method comprising the steps of:

coextruding a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer (A) prepared by melt-blending a polyamide-based resin with an alcohol-based compound and then adding an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer thereto, together with polyamide layers (B) and (C) each comprising an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient, an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt.%, a modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer, and an antioxidant, in the order of (B)/(A)/(C) to form a laminated film, wherein the polyamide layers (B) and (C) each comprises an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient and an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt.%; and

biaxially stretching the film.

13-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film consisting of:

at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer comprising: (i) a polyamide-based resin which contains nylon-6 as a principal ingredient; (ii) an alcohol-based compound, and (iii) a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer; and

at least one polyamide layer laminated on the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer, wherein the polyamide layer comprises an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient, an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. %, a modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer, and an antioxidant, and

said polyamide-based multilayer film having boiling resistance as measured by transparency substantially unchanged for 30 minutes or longer in boiling water at 85°C or for 30 minutes or longer in retort treatment at 121-135°C.

28. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film according to claim 27, wherein a weight ratio of the polyamide-based resin to the alcohol-based compound is 99/1 to 60/40.

29. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film according to claim 27, wherein the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and the polyamide layer are laminated by co-extrusion and biaxial stretching.

30. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film according to claim 27, wherein the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer is a center layer, and the at least one polyamide layer comprises two layers between which the center layer is sandwiched.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A polyamide-based multilayer film consisting of at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer, at least one polyamide layer, and at least one additional aromatic polyamide layer,

the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer comprising a polyamide-based resin, an alcohol-based compound, and a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, and

the at least one polyamide layer comprising an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient, an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. %, a modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer, and an antioxidant.

33. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of (1) that in which -OCOCH₃ groups are partially saponified, (2) that in which -OCOCH₃ is partially replaced with -OCOCH₂CH₃, and (3) that to which an acid anhydride is partially graft-polymerized.

34. (New) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the polyamide layer contains 80 to 96% aliphatic polyamide.

35. (New) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the polyamide layer contains 0.5 to 30% modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer and 0.5 to 30% ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer.